

## COUNTRY DATA: Sweden : Information from the CIA World Factbook

### INTRODUCTION

A military power during the 17th century, Sweden has not participated in any war for almost two centuries. An armed neutrality was preserved in both World Wars. Sweden's long-successful economic formula of a capitalist system interlarded with substantial welfare elements was challenged in the 1990s by high unemployment and in 2000-02 and 2009 by the global economic downturns, but fiscal discipline over the past several years has allowed the country to weather economic vagaries. Sweden joined the EU in 1995, but the public rejected the introduction of the euro in a 2003 referendum.

### GEOGRAPHY

<b>Location</b>	Northern Europe, bordering the Baltic Sea, Gulf of Bothnia, Kattegat, and Skagerrak, between Finland and Norway
<b>Area</b>	<b>total:</b> 450,295 sq km <b>country comparison to the world:</b> <u>55</u> <b>land:</b> 410,335 sq km <b>water:</b> 39,960 sq km slightly larger than California
<b>Climate</b>	temperate in south with cold, cloudy winters and cool, partly cloudy summers; subarctic in north
<b>Natural Resources</b>	iron ore, copper, lead, zinc, gold, silver, tungsten, uranium, arsenic, feldspar, timber, hydropower
<b>Total Renewable Water Resources</b>	179 cu km (2005)
<b>Freshwater Withdrawal</b>	<b>total:</b> 2.68 cu km/yr (37%/54%/9%) <b>per capita:</b> 296 cu m/yr (2002)
<b>Natural Hazards</b>	ice floes in the surrounding waters, especially in the Gulf of Bothnia, can interfere with maritime traffic
<b>Environmental Issues</b>	acid rain damage to soils and lakes; pollution of the North Sea and the Baltic Sea

### PEOPLE

<b>Population</b>	9,088,728 (July 2011 est.) <b>country comparison to the world:</b> <u>90</u>
<b>Ethnic</b>	indigenous population: Swedes with Finnish and Sami minorities; foreign-born or first-generation immigrants: Finns, Yugoslavs, Danes, Norwegians, Greeks, Turks

Groups	
Religions	Lutheran 87%, other (includes Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Baptist, Muslim, Jewish, and Buddhist) 13%
Languages	Swedish (official), small Sami- and Finnish-speaking minorities
Literacy Rate	<b>definition:</b> age 15 and over can read and write <b>total population:</b> 99% <b>male:</b> 99% <b>female:</b> 99% (2003 est.)
Major Infectious Diseases	N/A
GOVERNMENT	
Type	constitutional monarchy
Independence	6 June 1523 (Gustav VASA elected king)
Constitution	1 January 1975
Legal System	civil law system influenced by customary law; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction with reservations
ECONOMY	
Agricultural Products	barley, wheat, sugar beets; meat, milk
Industries	iron and steel, precision equipment (bearings, radio and telephone parts, armaments), wood pulp and paper products, processed foods, motor vehicles
Import commodities	machinery, petroleum and petroleum products, chemicals, motor vehicles, iron and steel; foodstuffs, clothing
Import Partners	Germany 17.9%, Denmark 8.9%, Norway 8.7%, Netherlands 6.17%, UK 5.56%, Finland 5.14%, France 5.06%, China 4.79% (2009)
Export Commodities	machinery 35%, motor vehicles, paper products, pulp and wood, iron and steel products, chemicals
Export Partners	Norway 10.61%, Germany 10.2%, UK 7.45%, Denmark 7.35%, Finland 6.44%, US 6.36%, France 5.05%, Netherlands 4.67% (2009)
Per Capita GDP	\$39,000 (2010 est.)  <b>country comparison to the world:</b> <a href="#">23</a>  \$37,500 (2009 est.)  \$39,600 (2008 est.)  <b>note:</b> data are in 2010 US dollars

Population below poverty line	NA%

\*CITATIONS: All information included above is extracted from the CIA World Factbook except where noted.